

RESOURCE PARTNER NEWSLETTER

September 2008

REMINDER:

Disney Institute

September 25, 2008

Location: Hendersonville

See page 4 for details.

USEAC Conference

December 8 - 10, 2008

See page 4 for details.

Free Tax Seminars to Aid Small Businesses

Tax experts from the state Department of Revenue will conduct free seminars at most of the state's Community College Small Business Centers. Instructors at the seminars will provide information about a variety of tax laws and the requirements businesses must meet. The seminars will cover five key topics: tax implications for starting a business; tax implications for growing a business; the basics of sales and use tax; the basics of withholding taxes; and dealing with the N.C. Department of Revenue.

The Small Business Center Network also launched a website, www.sbcn.nc.gov, with a section dedicated to tax information provided by the Revenue Department. The site is a one-stop resource for small business owners and offers a variety of helpful information such as entrepreneurship training, guides and tools for starting a business, information on government contracts and business publications. Small business owners can sign up for confidential one-on-one counseling through the website. The website features a section that focuses specifically on tax issues for small business owners, such as their tax obligations, current announcements, a tax checklist for starting a business, a guide for getting tax assistance and a list of helpful links. The tax section is located at: www.sbcn.nc.gov/taxInfo/default.aspx. To register for the tax seminars, contact your local community college or visit the Small Business Center website at www.sbcn.nc.gov.

New Products on IRS Web Site

Two new IRS products make it easier for small businesses and the self-employed to locate the information they need on the IRS's official Web site, www.irs.gov.

Publication 4667, Tax Information for Small Businesses and the Self-Employed, a free, laminated bookmark, provides Key Search Words to help them locate important tax information on [IRS.gov](http://www.irs.gov) quickly and easily. They can order this free laminated bookmark on the Small Business Products Online Ordering page. <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=101169,00.html>.

A new page on [IRS.gov](http://www.irs.gov) at: www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=115045,00.html, "Self-Employed Individuals Tax Center", is a one-stop, starting point for small businesses and self-employed taxpayers who file Schedule C with their Form 1040 and provides links to information on the most common issues new business owners face.

To get the latest information about other future Schedule C program events and learn about new products and services as they become available, start a FREE subscription to [e-News for Small Businesses](http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/content/0,,id=154826,00.html); just go to [IRS.gov](http://www.irs.gov) at <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/content/0,,id=154826,00.html>, type in your e-mail address and submit.

Helping small businesses
[start](#), [grow](#) and [succeed](#).



Your Small Business Resource

Active Lender Rankings FY 2008 YTD: October 1, 2007 – August 31, 2008

Lender	7(a) Approvals	Gross 7(a) \$'s	504 Participation Loans	504 Participation \$'s
Superior Financial Group	230	\$ 21,120,000		
BB&T	159	\$ 34,154,600	14	\$ 10,062,760
Self Help Credit Union	87	\$ 4,621,600		
Bank of America	75	\$ 2,513,300	9	\$ 7,324,837
Innovative Bank	55	\$ 1,310,000		
Banco Popular	46	\$ 12,800,600		
Surrey Bank & Trust	45	\$ 5,812,000	1	\$ 850,000
Wachovia	45	\$ 20,989,000	4	\$ 5,717,372
Capital One Bank	39	\$ 1,630,000		
CIT	36	\$ 22,574,400	3	\$ 7,291,250
Bank of Granite	34	\$ 5,423,150	6	\$ 3,952,938

Certified Development Corps.		
Self-Help Ventures Fund	70	\$ 34,046,000
Avista Business Development	23	\$ 12,224,000
BEFCOR	23	\$ 10,697,000

September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is designed to enhance the public's awareness of the necessity of having an emergency plan in place to respond to a natural or man-made disaster. The SBA is one of the many government and private sector coalition partners participating in this fifth annual National Preparedness Month.

To prepare for disasters, SBA offers the following tips:

- Develop a solid emergency response plan.
- Make sure you have adequate insurance coverage.
- Copy important records.
- Create a "Disaster Survival Kit."

More preparedness tips for businesses, homeowners and renters are available on the SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance/disasterpreparedness/index.html. The Institute for Business and Home Safety, www.ibhs.org, also has information on protecting your home or business. To learn more about developing an emergency plan, visit the DHS's Ready Campaign Web site at www.ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY to receive free materials. Flood insurance is essential. To find out more about the National Flood Insurance Program, visit the Web site at www.floodsmart.gov.

Reminder: “Small Business Days”

The North Carolina District Office is offering “Small Business Days” at the following chambers. “Small Business Days” will offer chamber members and other small business owners the opportunity to discuss SBA loan programs with an SBA Marketing and Outreach Specialist. The Chamber will schedule the appointments for the business owners.

Location	Day	Hours	Phone Number
Cary	Third Wednesday	10 a.m.- 2 p.m.	919-467-1016
Charlotte	Fourth Tuesday	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	704-344-6563
Gastonia	Third Tuesday	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	704-864-2621
Greensboro	First Tuesday	10 a.m.- 2 p.m.	336-510-1234
Hendersonville	Third Friday	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	828-692-1413
Hickory	Second Tuesday	10 a.m.- 2 p.m.	828-328-6000 x224
Mooresville	First Thursday	9 a.m. - 2 p.m.	704-664-3898
Salisbury	Fourth Wednesday	9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.	704-633-4221

Training Activities and Events

Let us help you promote your training activities and seminars. We can post them to our website calendar. Four weeks lead-time is required. E-mail updates to april.gonzalez@sba.gov or call (704) 344-6811.

‘Red Flag’ Requirements for Financial Institutions

Identity thieves use people’s personally identifying information to open new accounts and misuse existing accounts, creating havoc for consumers and businesses. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the federal bank regulatory agencies, and the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) have issued regulations (the Red Flags Rules) requiring financial institutions and creditors to develop and implement written identity theft prevention programs, as part of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions (FACT) Act of 2003. The program must provide for the identification, detection, and response to patterns, practices, or specific activities – known as “red flags” – that could indicate identity theft.

The Red Flags Rules apply to “financial institutions” and “creditors” with “covered accounts.” Transaction account is a deposit or other account from which the owner makes payments or transfers. Transaction accounts include checking accounts, negotiable order of withdrawal accounts, savings deposits subject to automatic transfers, and share draft accounts. A creditor is any entity that regularly extends, renews, or continues credit; any entity that regularly arranges for the extension, renewal, or continuation of credit; or any assignee of an original creditor who is involved in the decision to extend, renew, or continue credit. A covered account is an account used mostly for personal, family, or household purposes, and that involves multiple payments or transactions. Covered accounts include credit card accounts, mortgage loans, automobile loans, margin accounts, cell phone accounts, utility accounts, checking accounts, and savings accounts.

To file a complaint or to get free information on consumer issues call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357).

Disney Institute Brings Program to Henderson County

"The Disney Keys to Excellence" comes to Western North Carolina on Thursday, September 25 at Blue Ridge Community College. The full-day event will give area professionals an opportunity to "Experience the Business Behind the Magic" - proven strategies and best practices that are easily adaptable to other organizations. Disney Institute programs are unique in the world of training.

The Hendersonville Disney Keys program is made up of four 90-minute sessions:

- * Leadership, Disney Style - Participants discover how effective leadership has been the catalyst at Disney to drive employee/customer satisfaction and bottom-line results, from the company's inception to today.
- * Management, Disney Style - Participants examine the importance of integrating an organization's corporate culture into selection, training and care.
- * Service, Disney Style - Participants explore world-renowned Disney principles for service excellence.
- * Loyalty, Disney Style - Participants learn the key practices and principles in building and sustaining loyalty that have made Disney a trusted and revered brand around the world for more than 75 years.

Program registration is \$199 per person and includes all course materials and lunch. Companies and businesses may purchase a table of 6 for \$995. Purchase a table and save \$199 - get one admission free.

For more information or to register, call (828) 694-1779 or email Elaine at elaineh@blueridge.edu.

Small Business Resource Summit

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Atlanta Region Community Affairs has partnered with organizations that provide services to prospective and current small business owners in northeastern North Carolina to hold a full day Small Business Resource Summit that targets northeast North Carolina.

The Summit will be held on September 18, 2008, at the K. E. White Graduate Center, Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, North Carolina. The Summit will start at 9:00 A.M. and run until 4:00 P.M.

The Summit will bring together providers of small business loans, grants, and technical and educational services to allow prospective and current small business owners to have a "one-stop" shopping forum to learn about available resources. In addition, the Summit will allow the small business service providers to also learn about the many available resources so they may better serve their clients.

The Summit will include service provider exhibitor tables where information on programs can be obtained and questions answered, and break-out sessions that address topics pertinent to those starting or running a small business. The Summit will have a morning session from 9:00 A.M. to noon and an afternoon session from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

For more information contact : John A. Meeks, Community Affairs Specialist, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Raleigh Field Office, 2840 Plaza Place, Suite 350, Raleigh, NC 27612. Telephone: 919-787-8727 Ext 4915
e-mail: jmeeks@fdic.gov

Quote of the Month

Decisions you make today define your choices for tomorrow.

- Janet Harrison